

REMARKS

The Examiner's courtesy and cooperation in an interview on February 16, 2007 are appreciatively acknowledged. As a result of the foregoing amendment, the claims of the above-identified application have been modified in the manner discussed with the Examiner. In particular, the independent claims now recite a process wherein no embrittled PET is produced and the product-by-process claims have been cancelled.

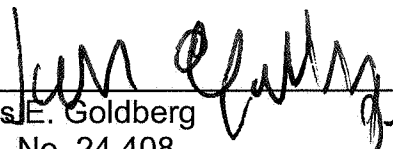
It is clear that the independent claims and claims dependent therefrom as amended are patentable over the art of record, the West '187 patent. Thus, that patent, the disclosure of that patent clearly discloses only a process wherein embrittled PET is produced during the carrying out of the process. This is a major advantage of the presently claimed process over that prior art.

In light of the Examiner's indication that the amendments would appear to overcome all rejections on record, favorable reconsideration and prompt Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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